Pam
Lepers
1348

Asylums, Hospitals, Homes and Stations

China, India, Ceylon, Burma, Siam, Japan, Korea, Sumatra, Philippine Islands.

MISSION TO LEPERS

IN

INDIA AND THE EAST

(Founded in 1874)

International **Interdenominational**

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The (1) (2) Sick, (3) Poor, Outcast, (4) Homeless Leper gets no sympathy from the oriental religion. Christian Missions provide an (5) Asylum where he finds Sympathy, Food, Clothing and shelter, including (6) Care for his physical infirmities, and special provision (7) for his untainted children.

SUFFERING LEPERS AS WE FIND THEM

AND HOW TO HELP THEM.

These questions and answers have been prepared for use in Missionary Institutes and Exhibitions.

1. Q. What is the cause of Leprosy?
   A. Medical opinion is divided. Several theories have been propounded, one of them being that it is caused by eating putrid dried fish and by other filthy conditions. It is known that Leprosy comes from a germ or microbe.
2. Q. Is there a cure for Leprosy?
   A. No. Clinical investigations give hope that a cure may be discovered in the near future.
3. Q. Is Leprosy contagious?
   A. Yes, but not very readily, insects probably transmit the disease in many cases. It may be taken also through food cooked by a leper. The bacillus of leprosy has been discovered and it is through this that the disease is transmitted.
4. Q. Is Leprosy hereditary?
   A. No, the results of our work among the untainted children show that we can rescue 90 per cent of the children of leprous parents from the disease. The theory of the non-hereditary nature of the disease, held by our Mission for so long, has now been definitely confirmed by medical experts at the Congress recently held in Bergen, Norway. The sexes are segregated in all of the "Mission to Lepers" Asylums, and the Lepers are not permitted to marry in the Asylums or homes of the Mission. The Asylums provide separate dormitories for men and women and separate homes for the untainted children of leprous parents.

5. Q. How many Lepers are there in the whole world?
   A. Perhaps a million Lepers, chiefly found in the oriental lands.
6. Q. How long do Lepers live?
   A. The average life of a Leper is from 9 to 15 years after contracting the disease, but many live much longer, especially under the improved conditions of our leper asylums.
7. Q. Do Lepers suffer much pain?
   A. Yes, but not continuously. The pain is greater in some forms of the disease than in others and at certain stages. Climatic conditions also have something to do with it; e. g., in the damp, rainy season they usually suffer more. Hence the need of good substantial buildings in which they may be housed.
8. Q. Is there any alleviation?
   A. Yes, a good deal may be done in this way—(a) by outward applications and the proper dressing of sores, etc., and (b) by clean sanitary surroundings, dry shelters and wholesome food.
9. Q. Do the natives of India do anything for their Lepers?
   A. No, not as a class; lepers are usually outcasts from society.
10. Q. Does the Indian Government do anything for the Lepers?
    A. Yes, so far as it can. In centres like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras there are Government Asylums. The work, however, needs Christian sympathy above all else, and the Government of India is never slow to express its appreciation of the work of our Mission.
11. Q. Is there any risk to the Missionary?
    A. The answer to Question 3 shows that the risk is only slight, especially if due care is taken.
12. Q. Are Missionaries to Lepers allowed to mix with other people?
    A. Yes, freely, as the danger of carrying contagion is very light.

13. Q. Is Leprosy of today the same disease as that referred to in the Bible?

A. Yes, but partly only. The word "Leprosy" in the Bible covers a number of unclean, loathsome diseases.

Note:—In India we meet with three kinds of Leprosy usually: (a) the anæsthetic form resulting in the mutilation of extremities of hands and feet; (b) the tubercular or nodular Leprosy, usually disfiguring the features; and (c) the mixed, the same leper having both the above forms. There is a "white leprosy," so called, where the color of the skin changes merely, but it is considered practically harmless.

14. Q. Do the Lepers respond to Christian teaching?

A. Yes, very readily.

15. Q. Who appoints the Missionaries to work among the Lepers?

A. The Denominational Boards allow their Missionaries to superintend the Leper work without extra compensation, thus leaving all gifts available directly for the relief of Leprosy.

16. Q. Is Mary Reed still living?

A. Yes, her life story is on sale at the American office of the Mission—(25 cents for paper cover and 50 cents for the cloth edition).

17. Q. Are there any Lepers in America?

A. Yes, several hundred in all. There are two colonies of Lepers officially designated as such. One of these is in New Orleans, La.; the other in Massachusetts, at Penikese.

18. Q. Is there any cause for great alarm in this country as to the spread of Leprosy?

A. No, our medical authorities have the situation well in hand. No spread of the disease is at all likely.

19. Q. How much money is now annually expended by the Mission to Lepers?

A. Exclusive of Government grants of lands and funds, a little more than One Hundred and Thirty Thousand Dollars ($130,000.00) was expended last year.

20. Q. How much of this amount was raised in the United States in 1911?

A. Barely more than Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00) from all sources in our country.

21. Q. How much money was paid for Leper work in Mission stations presided over by American Missionaries during 1911?

A. More than twice the amount received from our country—almost Thirty-five Thousand Dollars ($35,000.00).

22. Q. How much should he raised in America for this work?

A. At least as much as is required for the payment of expense of work for lepers under direction of the Missionaries of our own country, or, not less than Thirty-five Thousand Dollars ($35,000.00) for the coming year.

23. Q. How can officers of Missionary Societies of churches or others interested in knowing ahout Lepers and in helping them, get information suitahle to he used in puhlic meetings?

A. A program suited for use in young people's societies, in Sunday School or church, may he had hy applying to the Secretary, Mr. W. M. Danner, 105 Raymond Street, Camhridge, Mass. He will gladly furnish literature and answer inquiries.

24. Q. What must one do to get one of these programs?

A. Ask for it and agree to use it at a convenient time in the Society, Sunday School or Church with which one is connected and take an offering of whatever amount may he readily secured as a result of such meeting.

25. Q. Is there a paper published in the interest of "Work Among Lepers"?

A. Yes, "Without the Camp," quarterly publication, 25 cents per year postpaid. This is the organ of the Mission, is well illustrated and full of interesting and inspiring incidents.

26. Q. Does the Leper Mission issue collecting cards and books?

A. Yes, ask the Secretary or one of the Leper Court Stewards to show them to you.

27. Q. Who is responsible for the work in the United States?

A. A committee of well-known people, consisting of

Dr. Wm. Jay Schieffelin, Chairman, New York.
Mr. W. M. Danner, Secretary, Cambridge, Mass.
Mr. Fleming H. Revell, Treasurer, New York.
Rev. H. Roswell Bates, New York.
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Rev. H. A. Manchester, Boston, Mass.
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Mr. Delavan L. Pierson, New York.
Rev. Homer C. Stuntz, New York.

Contributions may be made by check, payable to

FLEMING H. REVELL, Treasurer

and sent to +

W. M. DANNER, Secretary U. S. A.

105 Raymond Street, Cambridge, Mass.

What Money Gifts will Provide

Support of one leper for two weeks . .	$1.00
Support of one leper for four weeks . .	2.00
Support of a leper's untainted child for three mo.	5.00

$25 SUPPORTS A LEPER A YEAR IN ONE OF OUR ASYLUMS.

+ or to an officer of any local Council or auxiliary.